

Public Affairs Update November 1-30, 2020



Here is the latest summary of stories and coverage of South Carolina National Guard Soldiers and Airmen supporting the National Guard mission to provide ready units to conduct operations that support and defend our fellow citizens, the Constitution of the United States of America, and South Carolina, whenever and wherever the threat arises or the need exists. The South Carolina National Guard is a premier organization of diverse Citizen-Soldiers and Airmen who are Ready, Relevant, Resilient and Responsible to our communities, state, and nation in time of need, and who are led by competent, capable, caring, and professional leaders and live by the values of loyalty, excellence in all we do, accountability, duty, emphasis on community, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity, and personal courage.

The digital FY2020 Annual Report can be found here:

https://www.scguard.ng.mil/Portals/45/Documents/annual%20reports/Annual%20Report%202020.pdf?ver=xZKjG_hQx_wl_Sot2WUB8Q%3d%3d

South Carolina National Guard Training, Missions, Current Events:

Happy holidays from the South Carolina National Guard

A holiday shout-out from Airmen and Soldiers of the South Carolina National Guard at McEntire Joint National Guard Base, South Carolina, Nov. 24, 2020.

Video: <https://www.dvidshub.net/video/773981/happy-holidays-your-south-carolina-national-guard>

CMSgt Kevin Thomas introduction

U.S. Air Force Command Chief Master Sgt. Kevin Thomas, South Carolina National Guard command senior enlisted leader, provides an introduction as the 13th command senior enlisted leader for the organization. In this role, he serves as the advisor to The Adjutant General for South Carolina for all enlisted matters pertaining to the South Carolina National Guard.

Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pfZOBBpV0eQ>

Survivor Outreach Services mails ornaments

The South Carolina National Guard and the South Carolina Survivor Outreach Services (SOS) Support Coordinators package up the traditional holiday cards and ornaments to mail Nov. 25, 2020, in Columbia, South Carolina. Due to restrictions caused by COVID-19 there will not be the traditional Holiday Party given by SOS where these items are normally presented.

Photos: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157717041597522>

Service Member & Family Care presents plaque to South Carolina Forestry Commission

The South Carolina National Guard Service Member and Family Care program presents a plaque to the South Carolina Forestry Commission (SCFC) Nov. 23, 2020 at the SCFC Headquarters in Columbia, South Carolina. The plaque is presented in recognition of their partnership with South Carolina National Guard family programs. The SCFC has provided multiple outdoor hunting programs for service members' families for more than 11 years. The hunts, held in Tillman, South Carolina, are where veterans and their families can hunt deer and turkey on private land managed by foresters. The foresters work throughout the year in managing and caretaking this property so that service members and their families can enjoy fellowship, conservation, and the outdoors.

Photos: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157717013884683>

SCANG provides donations for local food bank

The South Carolina Air National Guard collected 471 pounds of donated non-perishable food items for delivery to a local food bank in Columbia, South Carolina, Nov. 20, 2020.

Photos: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/thescang/albums/72157717014663528>

The Face Behind the Camera with the South Carolina National Guard

On this episode of the Palmetto Guardian we talk with U.S. Army Sgt. 1st Class Joe Cashion, U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Jerry Boffen, and U.S. Army Spc. Josiah Lining, all with the South Carolina National Guard 108th Public Affairs Detachment, about being the face behind the camera as multimedia specialists.

Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I-XaM5ma2hY>

New weapons qualification with the South Carolina National Guard marksmanship training unit

On this episode of the Palmetto Guardian we talk with U.S. Army Sgt. 1st Class Eric Lawrence, U.S. Army Staff Sgt. William Cox, and U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Kevin Pritchett, all with the South Carolina National Guard Marksmanship Training Unit, about the new weapons qualification.

Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q4t_O9tzjR4

218th MEB TOC operations

U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with Headquarters Support Company, 218th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, South Carolina Army National Guard, configured a tactical operations center during their monthly training held at the Charleston Readiness Center in Charleston, South Carolina, Nov. 14, 2020. Soldiers were responsible for setting up tents and communications systems in preparation for tactical movement exercises.

Photos: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157716897034076>

218th MEB awards ceremony

U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with Headquarters Support Company, 218th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, South Carolina Army National Guard, receive recognition during an awards ceremony held at the Charleston Readiness Center in Charleston, South Carolina, Nov. 14, 2020.

Photos: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157716897251131>

Maj. Gen. Brad Owens promotion

The South Carolina National Guard conducted a ceremony for U.S. Army Brig. Gen. Stephen (Brad) Owens, Nov. 13, 2020, at the South Carolina Military Museum in Columbia, South Carolina, to recognize his promotion to major general.

Photos: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157716869575418>

WOCS conducts ACFT

U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers attending the South Carolina National Guard, 218th Regional Training Institute, 2nd Battalion Warrant Officer Candidate School (WOCS) conduct the new Army Combat Fitness Test (ACFT) Nov. 13, 2020 at McCrady Training Center in Eastover, South Carolina, as part of the traditional WOCS training program.

Photos: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157716888760297>

CMSgt David Keller retirement ceremony

U.S. Air Force Chief Master Sgt. David Keller retired after 39 years of service to the South Carolina Air National Guard at McEntire Joint National Guard Base, South Carolina, Nov. 8, 2020. The ceremony was presided over by Lt. Col. Chris Gamble, 169th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron commander.

Photos: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/thescang/albums/72157716837426007>

228th TTSB Best Warrior Competition

The 228th Theater Tactical Signal Brigade, South Carolina National Guard, conducted the Best Warrior Competition at the Clarks Hill Training Site in Plum Branch, South Carolina, Nov. 6-8, 2020, to select the brigade-level Soldier of the Year and Non-Commissioned Officer (NCO) of the Year. Nine U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers competed, testing their knowledge, skills, and abilities by demonstrating critical thinking, formal board interviews, physical fitness challenges, and warrior tasks and battle drills relevant to today's operating environment. U.S. Army Sgt. Nelson Clark was recognized as Soldier of the Year, and Sgt. Jessica Eichman was recognized as NCO of the Year.

Photos: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157716855353778>

F-16 hot pit refueling and rearming training

U.S. Air National Guard Airmen from the 169th Fighter Wing perform a hot pit refueling and rearming on two U.S. Air Force F-16 fighter jets at McEntire Joint National Guard Base, South Carolina, Nov. 7, 2020.

Photos: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/thescang/albums/72157716822769097>

132nd Military Police drill weekend

The 132nd Military Police Company, South Carolina National Guard, conducted training on the Common Remotely Operated Weapon Station (CROWS) and conducted the new Army Combat Fitness Test (ACFT) during drill weekend on Nov. 7, 2020 at McCrady Training Center in Eastover, South Carolina.

Photos: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157716953707441>

Hunting the Good Stuff with Lisa Mustard

On this episode of the Palmetto Guardian we talk with Mrs. Lisa Mustard, South Carolina National Guard behavioral health office, about hunting the good stuff and how changing the way you look at things could change the way things look.

Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YRE9cjiREYY>

Col. Andrew Thorne promotion ceremony

Newly promoted U.S. Air Force Col. Andrew Thorne, 169th Fighter Wing vice commander, is recognized during a pinning ceremony by family and Airmen of the South Carolina Air National Guard at McEntire Joint National Guard Base, South Carolina, Nov. 6, 2020. The ceremony was presided over by U.S. Air Force Col. Akshai Gandhi, 169th Fighter Wing commander.

Photos: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/thescang/albums/72157716795112552>

COVID-19 Response Coverage:

South Carolina National Guard supports testing sites

The South Carolina National Guard supports mobile testing sites throughout the state with setting up, tearing down, directing traffic, and providing information to citizens visiting the test site:

Westminster: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157717123129787>

Conway: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157717123184797>

South Carolina National Guard prepares meals for inmates

U.S. Army National Guard Soldiers with the South Carolina National Guard prepare and serve meals at the South Carolina Department of Corrections in Columbia, South Carolina, Nov. 4, 2020. The Soldiers also assist with temperature monitoring to support the corrections facility in reducing the transmission and spread of the COVID-19 virus among the inmates as part of the department's plan to keep the inmates healthy.

Video:

<https://www.dvidshub.net/video/772026/south-carolina-national-guard-feeds-inmates-south-carolina-department-corrections>

Photos: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/scguard/albums/72157717118730908>

External Media Coverage:

Dozens of National Guard Soldiers step in to help SC prisons during COVID-19 pandemic

Hundreds of National Guard soldiers are still responding to COVID-19 in South Carolina, and dozens of them are helping in our prisons.

WIS News:

<https://www.wistv.com/2020/11/18/dozens-national-guard-soldiers-step-help-sc-prisons-during-covid-pandemic/>

Count on News 2:

<https://www.counton2.com/news/south-carolina-news/sc-national-guard-troops-still-assisting-state-prisons-during-the-coronavirus-pandemic/>

2 Trident Medical Center veterans given a hero's thanks

A veterans day red carpet welcomed veteran Korey Plewinski. He's a captain in the South Carolina national guard.

ABC 4: <https://abcnews4.com/news/local/2-trident-medical-center-veterans-given-a-heros-thanks>

Priorities of Public Affairs

Priorities of Public Affairs coverage include real-world crisis events, joint exercises, training, high-visibility community events, deployments and homecomings, newsworthy situations that support current events and South Carolina National Guard support or involvement, special emphasis events that support recognized DoD themes or campaigns, and designated patriotic holidays and events that support the South Carolina community, and the adjutant general's priorities of recruiting and retention, professional military education, individual and collective training, and accountability through effectively leveraging limited resources according to laws, regulations, and policies to maximize individual and unit readiness. The most recent annual report for the SC Military Department can be found here:

<https://www.scguard.ng.mil/Portals/45/Documents/annual%20reports/Annual%20Report%202019.pdf?ver=2019-12-09-120622-060>

Please contact the South Carolina National Guard Public Affairs office for coverage of events that meet the criteria.

For more up-to-date information on the South Carolina National Guard, follow us on social media:

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Air National Guard
[@scairnationalguard](#)
[@theSCANG](#)
[South Carolina Air National Guard](#)

Flickr:	<u>SC National Guard</u>	<u>S.C. Air National Guard</u>
Youtube:	<u>SCNationalGuard</u>	<u>S.C. Air National Guard</u>
DVIDS:	<u>South Carolina National Guard</u>	<u>169th Fighter Wing</u>